

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 101

BY REPRESENTATIVE LORUSSO

A RESOLUTION

To commend Lieutenant Colonel William G. Mason upon his retirement from the Louisiana Army National Guard.

WHEREAS, upon the occasion of his retirement from the Louisiana Army National Guard, it is appropriate that a sincere and heartfelt measure of commendation and appreciation be expressed to Lieutenant Colonel William G. Mason for his remarkable term of military service; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Mason has consistently demonstrated his dedicated spirit and intense determination to serve his country and state with honor and distinction, serving throughout the course of his distinguished career in numerous commands in the United States Army Special Forces and the Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps from Louisiana State University in 1983, Lieutenant Colonel Mason's first assignment was to Fort Benning, Georgia, where he attended the Infantry Officer Basic Course, followed by Airborne Training; his first duty assignment was Infantry Platoon Leader, Company A, 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry (Mechanized) Louisiana Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, upon his completion of the Special Forces Qualification Course and earning his "Green Beret", Lieutenant Colonel Mason served in numerous leadership positions with the 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne), including as the commander of Special Forces Operation Detachment, Company A, 2nd Battalion; commander of Support Company, 2nd Battalion; commander of Detachment 1, HQ, 2nd Battalion; and commander of Company C, 2nd Battalion; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Mason deployed to Uzbekistan and Afghanistan as the Battalion Executive Officer, 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne), where he earned a Combat Infantryman's Badge and Bronze Star Medal; and

WHEREAS, following his return to the Louisiana National Guard from the 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Lieutenant Colonel Mason was assigned the 61st Troop Command as a Special Projects Officer; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Mason is also a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Airborne School, Special Forces Qualification Course, Jumpmaster Course, Mountain Warfare School, Combined Arms Staff Services School, and the Command and General Staff College, and

WHEREAS, throughout the course of his exceptional career, Lieutenant Colonel Mason has been honored with numerous awards, including the Bronze Star Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Louisiana National Guard Cross of Merit, Louisiana National Guard Emergency Service Ribbon, and the Mississippi National Guard War Medal; and

WHEREAS, throughout his outstanding service, Lieutenant Colonel Mason has earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Special Forces Tab, Basic Parachutist Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Argentinean Parachutist Badge, German Parachutist Badge, Italian Parachutist Badge, Paraguayan Parachutist Badge, Peruvian Parachutist Badge, and Uzbekistan Parachutist Badge; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Mason merits the highest commendation and sincere congratulations for his exemplary term of military service and for his outstanding contributions to the United States Army, to the Louisiana Army National Guard, and to his state and nation, whose citizens will long reap the benefits of his wonderful legacy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Lieutenant Colonel William G. Mason for his remarkable military career that spans nearly three decades, does hereby express to him upon his retirement enduring appreciation for his many years of distinguished military service, does hereby record for posterity his vital contributions and his tireless dedication to excellence, does hereby extend to him every good wish for continued success and happiness in his future endeavors, and does hereby recognize the tremendous pride and honor that he brings to the state of Louisiana and to the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Lieutenant Colonel William G. Mason.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES